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## Biblical Work and Workers.

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The annual series of Monday lectures given by Joseph Cook, in Tremont Temple, Boston, are this year upon "Strategic Scriptures, or Merits and Defects of the Higher Criticism."

Rev. E. K. Mitchell, D. D., a graduate of Marietta College, has been elected Professor of Biblical Literature and the History of Christianity, in the University of the City of New York.

The volumes of the "Expositor's Bible," that series which has proved of so high average scholarship and utility, announced for this year are, "The Epistles to the Thessalonians," by Rev. J. Denney; The Gospel of John, vol. 2, by Dr. Marcus Dods; The Psalms, vol. 1, by Rev. Dr. Alexander MacLaren; The Acts of the Apostles, vol. 2, by G. T. Stokes, D. D.; The Book of Job, by R. A. Watson, D. D.; The Epistle to the Ephesians, by G. G. Findlay, B. A.

The *Expositor* during the current year is to contain some papers on the Miracles of Our Lord, by Dean Chadwick; Professor Beet, the commentator on the Epistles of Paul, will write on the Doctrine of the Atonement in the New Testament; Studies in New Testament Theology will be contributed by Rev. Dr. James Stalker; and Rev. G. Adam Smith will work over some of his material, acquired in a recent trip to Palestine, in a series of articles on The Historical Geography of Palestine.

Dr. Winckler of the University of Berlin has recently published the first part of what he entitles "Cuneiform Textbook to the Old Testament." The purpose of it is to furnish in convenient form for reference the original material from the Assyrian and Babylonian cuneiform remains which bears upon the Old Testament. Only the transliterated text and a German translation are given though notes are promised if found to be desired by students. An English edition of this little book would be useful. It may be added also that a new History of Assyria and Babylonia by Dr. Winckler is in the press.

The trouble among the Canadian Methodists, which arose from the advanced views on the subject of Messianic prophecy and the inspiration of Scripture recently set forth by Prof. G. C. Workman of Victoria College, has resulted in his resignation. It seems that the institution, in their purpose to retain him in the faculty and at the same time prevent him from giving theological instruction, transferred him to a chair in the Arts department. This was naturally interpreted by the professor as a reflection upon his soundness of doctrine, and his withdrawal was the result.

In England an outcry has been raised against the Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge, because it has requested Prof. A. H. Sayce, LL. D., to prepare a little volume which shall present the results of recent researches in Palestine and Egypt in their relation to the recent Old Testament criticism. However the matter may alarm the High Church theologians, it is evident

that the important task could not have been given into better hands; and, judging from Prof. Sayce's articles along this line which are now appearing in the *Expository Times*, there is little occasion for fear that the work will not be sufficiently conservative.

It is with much interest that we note the steps being taken to promote a more general Historical Study of Religions. The plan is to institute popular courses of lectures, somewhat after the manner of the Hibbert Lectures in England, to be delivered annually in our leading cities by the best scholars of Europe and America. Dr. C. P. Tiele, Professor of the History of Religions at the University of Leyden, can be secured for 1893, and Prof. Jas. Darmsteter, Member of the French Academy and Professor at the College de France, for 1894. A committee of representative persons from different sections of the country have the project in hand.

Paul de Lagarde, of the University of Göttingen, one of the leading orientlists of Germany, whose death recently occurred, was the author of more than sixty books, many of them edited texts of works in oriental and classical languages, among the best known of which was his edition of the Septuagint. He has been equalled by few either in extent of learning or power of work. His views in theology and criticism were unusual combinations, and he was not well understood. But his scholarship and achievements nevertheless made him eminent. When called from his labors he was planning a new Syriac lexicon, which would undoubtedly have been a work of prime importance.

A severe criticism is passed upon the new edition of Baedeker's *Palestine* by Revs. Geo. Adam Smith and W. Ewing, in a recent number of an English biblical journal. The bad omissions of the earlier editions have not been supplied or the mistakes corrected. Mr. Smith used it in a trip through Syria last summer, and the faults pointed out are those which he discovered by actual use of the book in travel. It is not up to date in its account of discoveries. Such a place as Beersheba is omitted entirely. Mr. Ewing, a missionary in Palestine, criticises its vocabulary severely and calls attention to many slips and much careless work in editing. All who venture to use the book should examine the detailed criticisms and notes of Mr. Ewing.

An authorized English translation of Prof. H. H. Wendt's "Der Inhalt der Lehre Jesu" (The Content of the Teaching of Jesus), is soon to be published by Messrs. T. and T. Clark of Edinburgh. It will have the benefit of a revision by the author. Perhaps a more useful and valuable work has not appeared in the department of Biblical Theology. Rev. Buchanan Blake's new work, "How to Read the Prophets," has just been issued, treating the Minor Prophets with the same success which characterized his recent book on Isaiah. Rev. R. H. Charles, M. A., is to prepare a scientific edition of the Book of Enoch, to be published by the Oxford University Press. The new, carefully revised edition of Andrew's "Life of Our Lord," by Scribners, is now upon the market.

On a recent Sunday in New York City, five of the leading churches heard sermons concerning the problems of biblical criticism. In the Madison Avenue M. E. church, Prof. Miley, of Drew Theological Seminary, spoke on "The Agency of the Holy Spirit in the Authorship of the Scripture." Prof.

Marvin Vincent, of Union Seminary, discussed "The Bible and New Testament Criticism," at the Church of the Puritans in Harlem. Dr. A. J. F. Behrends, at the Church of the Covenant, presented "The Bible and the Present Drift of Religious Thought." A sermon on "The Inspiration and Inerrancy of the Bible," was delivered in St. James' Lutheran Church by the pastor, Dr. Remensnyder. And at the Marble Collegiate Church (Dr. Burrell's), Prof. Wm. H. Green, of Princeton Seminary, discussed "The Anti-Biblical Higher Criticism," a synopsis of which sermon will be found on another page. The theological controversies now prominent have evidently awakened and enlisted the laymen of the Church. It will be interesting to observe what contribution they can make to the solution of the vexed questions.

The death of Rev. Chas. A. Aiken, Ph. D., D. D., Professor of the Relations of Philosophy and Science to the Christian Religion, and of Oriental and Old Testament Literature, in Princeton Theological Seminary, took place on Thursday, Jan. 14th. Previous to his latest professorship, he had occupied the chair of Latin in Dartmouth College, and then in Princeton College, the latter office terminating when he became President of Union College in 1869. Two years after this he assumed the professorship of Christian Ethics in Princeton Theological Seminary, from which chair he was transferred in 1882 to that of Old Testament Literature. When Dr. Patton became President of Princeton College, the last change was made in Prof. Aiken's professional charge. His intellectual attainments were very high, and his linguistic knowledge was extensive and accurate. As a teacher of language he was among the first. He was a member of the Old Testament Revision Committee, the editor and translator of "Lange's Commentary on Proverbs," and a frequent writer for the theological reviews, his last article appearing in the January number of the *Presbyterian and Reformed Review*, discussing "Christianity and Social problems."